

Interview Summary	Application No. 10/675,089	Applicant(s) CHRISTOFFERSON ET AL.	
	Examiner FREDRICK C. CONLEY	Art Unit 3673	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) FREDRICK C. CONLEY. (3)_____.

(2) THEDFORD I. HITAFER. (4)_____.

Date of Interview: 05 June 2006.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 25 and 26.

Identification of prior art discussed: N/A.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☐ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☒ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: THE APPLICANT'S REPRESENTATIVE AND THE EXAMINER DISCUSSED CHANGES TO THE CLAIMS. SEE ATTACHMENT.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.



Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

LAW OFFICES OF

MACMILLAN, SOBANSKI & TODD, LLC

Richard S. MacMillan
Mark J. Sobanski
Oliver E. Todd, Jr.
Ted C. Gillespie
Douglas V. Pavelko
John B. Molnar
Catherine B. Martineau
Gregg W. Einch
Gary M. Sutter
Thedford I. Hitaffer
Scott A. Blake
Gregory W. Robinette
Staci E. Schweikert
Anita S. Toska
James D. Schweikert
C. Fred Charpie, III

One Maritime Plaza
Fourth Floor
720 Water Street
Toledo, Ohio 43604-1853

Telephone (419) 255-5900
Facsimile (419) 255-9639
toledo@mstfirm.com

Livonia, Michigan Office

Mark L. Mollon
Donald A. Wilkinson
Frank G. McKenzie
Frank L. Lollo
38705 Seven Mile Road, Suite 405
Livonia, Michigan 48152-0193
Telephone (734) 542-0900

Of Counsel

Allen W. Inks

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION FROM TOLEDO, OHIO OFFICE

To: EXAMINER CONLEY Date: 6.5.06

Firm: PTO - GAU 3673

City: ALEX State: VA Zip Code: 22313

Fax No.: 511 - 273 - 7040

From: T. HITAFFER - REG NO. 38,490

Total pages including cover page: 6

Comments: PLEASE SEE ATTACHED PROPOSED
AMENDMENT. CALL TO
CONFIRM RECEIPT.

THANK YOU.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

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I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

(signature)

Date of signature and deposit - _____

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
James L. Christofferson et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3673
)	
Serial No.: 10/675,089)	Examiner: F. Conley
)	
Filed: September 30, 2003)	Confirmation No.: 4760
)	
For: Seat Cushion and Method for)	Attorney Docket: 1-24751
Carrying Pressure-Distributing)	
Medium in a Seat Cushion)	

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PROPOSED AMENDMENT AFTER ALLOWANCE

Honorable Sir:

Responsive to a Notice of Allowance and Examiner's Amendment, dated May 26, 2006, please consider the proposed amendment the above-identified application as indicated on the following pages and enter a supplemental Examiner's amendment to correct minor errors in the Examiner's Amendment, dated May 26, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

Thedford I. Hitaffer
Reg. No. 38,490

MacMillan, Sobanski & Todd, LLC
One Maritime Plaza, Fourth Floor
720 Water Street
Toledo, Ohio 43604
(419) 255-5900

Application No: 10/675,089
Attorney Docket: 1-24751

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as presented below.

1-12. (cancelled)

13. A seat cushion for a personal mobility vehicle, the seat cushion comprising:
a base;
a pressure-distributing medium supported by the base; and
a cover covering the base and the pressure-distributing medium, wherein the cover comprises:
a pocket for receiving the pressure-distributing medium; and
top and bottom fabric panels joined together with an opening provided therebetween that is selectively opened and closed via one or more fasteners, wherein a first fastening element is affixed to a top surface of a piece of fabric and a second fastening element is affixed to a bottom of the pressure-distributing medium, the first and second fastening element being adapted to be secured together to hold the pressure-distributing medium firmly in the pocket.

14-18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. A method for carrying a pressure-distributing medium in a personal mobility vehicle cushion, the method comprising the steps of:
a) providing a cushion cover having a pocket with a first portion of a hook-and-loop type fastener in the pocket;
b) providing a pressure-distributing medium with a second portion of a hook-and-loop type fastener;
c) inserting a pressure-distributing medium in the pocket;

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- c) securing the pressure-distributing medium to the inside of the pocket by mating the first and second portions; and
- d) inserting a base in the cover so that the pressure-distributing medium is positioned above the base.

21. The seat cushion of claim 13, wherein the pressure-distributing medium is a fluid pad.

22. The seat cushion of claim 13, wherein the base includes a posterior seat well for receiving bony prominences of a wheelchair occupant.

23. The seat cushion of claim 22, wherein the pocket is positioned at a rear of the cover substantially over the seat well.

24. The seat cushion of claim 13, wherein the pocket is provided within the cover.

25. A seat cushion for a personal mobility vehicle, the seat cushion comprising:

- a base ~~with a first fastening element~~;
- a pressure-distributing medium with a first fastening element supported by the base; and
- a cover covering the base and the pressure-distributing medium, wherein the cover comprises:
 - a pocket for receiving the pressure-distributing medium with a second fastening element within the pocket; securing the pressure-distributing medium to the inside of the pocket by mating the first and second elements; and
 - top and bottom fabric panels joined together with an opening provided therebetween that is selectively opened and closed via one or more fasteners, wherein

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the pocket is formed from a piece of fabric secured adjacent an underside of the top fabric panel so that an opening is presented along one side of the pocket, and wherein the pocket opening is at a front end thereof.

26. A seat cushion for a personal mobility vehicle, the seat cushion comprising:

a base ~~with a first fastening element~~;

a pressure-distributing medium with a first fastening element supported by the base; and

a cover covering the base and the pressure-distributing medium, wherein the cover comprises:

a pocket for receiving the pressure-distributing medium with a second fastening element within the pocket; securing the pressure-distributing medium to the inside of the pocket by mating the first and second elements; and

top and bottom fabric panels joined together with an opening provided therebetween that is selectively opened and closed via one or more fasteners, wherein the pocket is formed from a piece of fabric secured adjacent an underside of the top fabric panel so that an opening is presented along one side of the pocket, and wherein the pocket is closed along rear and lateral sides of the cover.

27. The seat cushion of claim 13, further including at least one fastener along the pocket for securing the pressure-distributing medium therein.

28. The seat cushion of claim 27, wherein the at least one fastener is in the form of a hook-and-loop type fastener.

29. The seat cushion of claim 13, wherein the one or more fasteners is a slideable fastener.

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REMARKS

Claims 25 and 26 should be amended as set forth above. It should be clear that the pressure-distributing medium has one fastening element (i.e., a first fastening element) and another fastening element (i.e., a second fastening element) is within the pocket. The pressure-distributing medium is secured to the inside of the pocket by mating the elements (i.e., the first and second fastening elements). Accordingly, a supplemental Examiner's amendment to claims 25 and 26, as proposed above, is respectfully requested.